

(8) the United States should consider those Afghans, especially known friends of the United States, fleeing political persecution from the Taliban regime to be refugees eligible for consideration for asylum;

(9) the Department of State should urge the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to protect the rights of Christians and Shiite Muslims in Pakistan and should publish a special report to Congress on the human rights situation in Pakistan, especially as it affects religious minorities; and

(10) the Department of State should report to the Congress concerning whether the Taliban, which provides a safe haven for Osama bin Laden and other terrorist organizations as well as illicit drug monies which assist these terrorists, should be added to the list of designated foreign terrorist organizations.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF IRANIAN STUDIES

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a short statement by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers about efforts of the American Institute of Iranian Studies efforts to reestablish contacts with Iran as one in a series of good initiatives to expand exchanges with Iran.

This past summer two professors from the University of Pennsylvania took nine American students to Iran for close to three months. USIA covered travel expenses, but the Iranian Ministry of Culture and Higher Education covered local costs in Tehran. The American Institute of Iranian Studies which was founded more than 30 years ago anticipates further such exchanges in an effort to help reestablish a more permanent presence in Iran.

The statement of the American Council follows:

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF IRANIAN STUDIES: ACTIVITIES IN TEHRAN

Following signals from Iran earlier this year indicating a willingness to conduct a dialogue at non-governmental levels, the American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIIRs) has taken steps to reestablish its presence in Iran and to launch programs which support Iranian studies in the United States and contribute to easing tension and facilitating communication between the United States and Iran. A summer language and research program for American graduate students was successfully completed last month and discussions culminated in agreement on a framework for continuing direct dialogue in both Iran and United States, and collaboration in the promotion of research on Iranian civilization.

The American Institute of Iranian Studies was founded in 1967 as a consortium of American universities and museums having an interest in Iranian Studies. It functioned as an American overseas research organization, representing Iranian studies at the institutional level and maintaining a center in Tehran with a resident American scholar as director. The Tehran center was closed in 1979 for political reasons but the organization has remained active since then. For the past nineteen years, AIIRs has worked to support and strengthen the field of Iranian studies in the U.S. by awarding fellowships

to help graduate students complete their dissertations. Its current membership consists of fifteen American universities and museums.

In the spring of 1998, officers of the AIIRs, Profs. William L. Hanaway and Brian Spooner of the University of Pennsylvania, worked with the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations to develop an intensive summer program in Iran for advanced American graduate students. Nine students from the Universities of Texas, Washington, Michigan and California at Los Angeles, the University of Chicago, Tufts University, Harvard University, and Washington University St. Louis, were chosen from over thirty applicants to attend a two-month summer language and research program administered by the International Center for Persian Studies in Tehran.

The nine students—five women and four men—were briefed in New York by the UN Mission and AIIRs and subsequently spent nine weeks in Tehran attending language classes and carrying out first-hand research relevant to their doctoral dissertation topics which range from historical subjects to studies of Iranian law and society, nationalism and ethnic conflict, and business issues. Most of the students returned to their home universities in early September, although one woman remains in Tehran with the concurrence of the University to pursue further language study. The students were warmly treated by their hosts and the Iranian general public and traveled freely throughout the country with no restrictions or untoward incidents.

The Iranian Ministry of Culture and Higher Education covered all local costs in Tehran. A grant of \$30,000 from the United States Information Agency (USIA) enabled AIIRs to cover the cost of international travel for the students, Hanaway, and Spooner, and to arrange a briefing in New York for the students before their departure. This financial support from the U.S. government was an important factor in the program's success. Hanaway and Spooner kept officials at USIA and the U.S. Department of State aware of all aspects of the program and received support and constructive advice at all stages.

Hanaway and Spooner were also able to begin negotiations with Iranian scholars and officials which should lead to greater cooperation between scholars in both countries. Within the framework for dialogue, exchange, and collaboration just established, AIIRs expects very soon to send the first of a series of American research fellows, continue advanced language training, launch scholarly exchanges between American and Iranian scholars, serve as a resource in the U.S. for Iranian scholars, and continue dialogue with the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education in Tehran. Through academic non-political programs, AIIRs will work to improve relations between American and Iranian scholars and thereby contribute to improved relations between the two countries.

Submitted by Dr. Mary Ellen Lane, Executive Director, Council of American Overseas Research Centers, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

IN HONOR OF CLEVELAND
CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my best wishes to Cleveland Central Catholic High School (CCC) in Celebrating its 30th anniversary. From its opening in 1969, it has continuously honored its mission to provide an innovative educational opportunity to the students of the greater Cleveland area.

The brainchild of Rev. John L. Fiala, this high school originated as a merger of four deeply rooted neighborhood Catholic high schools, Saint John Cantius, Saint Stanislaus, Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint Michael. His hard work resulted in a campus where each building retained its own identity while changing its educational curriculum to fit the plan of the merger. The buildings were renovated to house many structural changes, with labs and specialty rooms on each campus. Reverend Fiala fashioned an affordable high school experience for the 1,600 students who attended Cleveland Central Catholic while providing them with excellent faculty and staff.

Once the merger was established, the school began to expand and improve its programs, becoming a forerunner in education. It initiated the first State approved 3-year program in Ohio and instituted block scheduling, a concept that has been heralded to catapult education into the year 2000. Much of the school's success has occurred due to the unconditional support from the CCC Parents Club, the Booster Club, and the ongoing dedication of the faculty.

Even though the academics have focused toward a more traditional role at CCC, there have been a number of evident changes. Advances in technology have brought the installation of computer labs and extensive staff training, access to the Internet, a video-conferencing lab, and integrated math and post secondary option programs.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the 30th anniversary of Cleveland Central Catholic High School. This institution provides a needed stability for the students who come through its doors. It has remained a unique educational experience that is sure to become even better in years to come.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR TOM
BRADLEY

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to salute the life of Mayor Tom Bradley—a great American and great Angelino.

He was a pioneer and a peacemaker. He was tenacious and compassionate. He was a coalition builder who fought for Justice and racial tolerance. Tom Bradley was truly a remarkable man whose historic, 20-year leadership of Los Angeles left an indelible mark on our lives.

It is indeed a testament to the strength of his character and to our democracy that the